

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, our colleagues on the Republican side are proposing to close the door to higher education for middle-income students in order to pay for a capital gains tax cut. Four major student aid programs—subsidized Stafford loans, work study programs, supplemental education opportunity grants and Perkins loans—are targeted for reduction or elimination.

Last weekend, I met with a group of college students in Maine. They were shocked and disappointed to learn of this proposal. In Maine, nearly 80 percent of all students attending the public university receive assistance from one or more of the targeted programs.

For the vast majority of these students, eliminating this aid will mean that attending college will become a dream turning bleak. Children of working families simply do not have the financial resources on their own to pay for higher education.

Who suffers as a result of this plan? Not just working-class families, but all Americans. Our country desperately needs an educated work force. Today's students are tomorrow's leaders. We cannot afford to deny access to education to all but the most privileged. We must defeat this ill-considered plan, and open education up to all.

#### AMERICA NEEDS TERM LIMITS

(Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, we need to adopt term limits. Eighty-five percent of the American people support limits on the time a Member may serve in Congress.

The current system of entrenched power and almost perpetual incumbency has produced a political climate of cynicism and distrust among the American people. Term limits, with their built-in mandate for accountability, can move us toward restoring faith of a wary public in their government in Washington.

Mr. Speaker, this is not a partisan issue. While Republicans just won control of both Houses for the first time in 40 years, we are reaching across the aisle and urging our Democrat colleagues to join us in fundamentally changing the way Washington works. It is my hope that the voters' demand for change will not become just another electoral echo but will remain vivid and distinct in our ears.

The American people deserve a Congress that is answerable directly to them. This is the meaning of the 1994 election. Mr. Speaker, we want a Congress that is truly a reformed Congress; that demands term limits now.

#### SSI AND TRAINING CUTS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with this body a story of individual courage and independence, the type of story that my colleagues from the other side of the aisle like to hold up as the American ideal.

Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege of meeting a very special young woman from my home State of Texas by the name of Beth. Beth, by her own description, is retarded. Now, with a low-skills job, she pays taxes. She is determined to get a better job and soon get her own apartment.

But the Republicans' tax cut will not help Beth. While she was growing up in Texas, Beth's working-class family cared for her with the help of supplemental security income, the SSI Program. She has had access to various Federal youth job training programs that gave her help so that she could get into the public schools.

The Republicans' tax cut will not help Beth. Beth and others like her, true Americans asking only for a hand in overcoming adversity, may now be slapped down by the Contract on America, to pay for symbolic tax cuts, tax cuts that do not do any for us any good.

The other side is ready to cut SSI, job training, and student loans designed to give the disadvantaged an opportunity. Mr. Speaker, the only way that we can help Beth is to make sure that we enhance the opportunities. Mr. Speaker, the tax cuts that the Republicans offered are not the right thing to do.

#### TO THE DEMOCRATS: JOIN US

(Mr. LAHOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, where are the Democrats? We need you. We need you today.

It takes 290 votes. Twenty-two States, many of the States that you all come from, have passed term limits. Why do you not get the message?

Many of these people are Democrats in these 22 States. They need for you to come to the floor today and support the vast majority of Republicans that will vote for term limits.

Do not snub your nose at your people. Come and join us. Help us put the 290 on the board and give the people of the country a chance, an opportunity to debate term limits so it will go out to every State legislature, so all the people will have a chance to debate it.

Do not snub your nose at the voters. Give them a chance to have a say in this. Come and join us. Put the 290 on the board today. Join us.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TORKILDSEN). The Chair will caution

all visitors, you are guests of the Chamber, and we do not allow demonstrations for or against any statement made on the floor.

#### CONGRESSIONAL TERM LIMITS

(Mr. ROEMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I have to respond to the previous speaker in saying that the Democrats must vote for term limits in order to pass it; I would just remind the gentleman from Illinois that he needs to get his leadership and his Republicans to vote for term limits, where the gentleman from Texas [Mr. DELAY] is not going to vote for term limits; the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HYDE] is not going to vote for term limits, the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary; the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. LIVINGSTON], chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, is not going to vote for term limits.

It is not the Democrats that are refusing to vote for term limits. It is the Republicans as a body that are not totally endorsing term limits and will be responsible for this matter not going through the House of Representatives.

Now, term limits, they think, is the answer to everything. Mexico has very strict term limits for their President, their Senate, and their House of Representatives. It certainly has not solved all the problems in Mexico, and people like Mr. Madison and Mr. Jefferson served this country valiantly and with courage and responsibility for up to 43 years.

We should not remove that responsibility from people in this country.

#### URGING SUPPORT FOR TERM LIMITS

(Mr. WHITE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WHITE. Mr. Speaker, I have only been here for a short period of time, just 3 months, but in that short period of time I have learned something about term limits.

I have learned that there are lots of good people who have been in this House for a long period of time, people with experience who can add a lot to the debate, and if we pass term limits today, Mr. Speaker, some of those people will not be able to stay.

But, Mr. Speaker, for every single person we will lose because of term limits, there are thousands and thousands of other Americans who could serve equally well in this House, because no matter how much experience we have in the House, no matter how many Rhodes Scholars we have in the White House, the genius of our country resides in the people of this country, not in professional politicians.